



## INSTRUCTIONS

# 2019 Holsteiner Breeding Stock Approvals

-- Schedule will be posted separately --

**You can download your approvals application form online at [www.holsteiner.com](http://www.holsteiner.com). You can fill it out and either mail or fax your application directly to the District office! Or, you can use the new fillable form and email it!**

**29605 Grandpoint Lane ♦ Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275  
503.570.7779 ♦ (fax) 310-833-4670 ♦ [holsteiner@bellsouth.net](mailto:holsteiner@bellsouth.net)**

The primary goal of the Holsteiner Verband Breeding Stock tour is to evaluate mares and stallions for entry into the Holsteiner Studbooks. As a secondary goal, weanlings, yearlings and geldings are evaluated as products of the breeding program and branding is offered for eligible offspring. Most inspections are in September and October, however we strive to accommodate breeders at other times as schedules permit. Sites where stallions will be judged will have a minimum of 3 judges. Mares, geldings, yearlings and weanlings can be presented at any site. The Mare Performance Test (MPT) should be offered at most sites, but owners who wish to participate in the MPT must indicate interest at the time they enter the mare in the approvals.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS**

All participants are responsible for knowledge of the enclosed information as well as the official Holsteiner Verband Breeding and Registration Rules. It is highly recommended to read this catalog thoroughly, from beginning to end, to have a full comprehension of the inspection process. If questions still arise regarding this information, the inspection process, or the application forms, please email [bergmann@holsteiner-verband.de](mailto:bergmann@holsteiner-verband.de). You can also phone the Holsteiner Verband - North American Breeding District Office at (503) 570-7779, fax at (503) 570-7781, or email [holsteiner@bellsouth.net](mailto:holsteiner@bellsouth.net). For your convenience, the Breeding and Registration Rules are also available on line at [www.holsteiner-verband.de](http://www.holsteiner-verband.de).

## **IMPORTANT NOTES**

◇ The Holsteiner Verband requires that all entries be sent to the Holsteiner Verband in Germany or the North American Breeding District office for processing. Remember that your entry must be received at the District office at least three weeks prior to the date of your selected inspection location. For late entries please ask at the above mentioned emails.

◇ In order to register foals or present a mare or stallion for the breeding books, a participant must join the Holsteiner Verband by completing a Verband membership form.

- ◇ Registration papers will be issued by the Holsteiner Verband and mailed to breeders sometime in prior to the end of this year or early next year. Parent-verification still needs to be completed prior to inspection/branding and will continue to be done through the Veterinary Genetics Lab at UC Davis. Since the Holsteiner Verband mandates microchipping in Europe, and it is likely they will move to mandate it within North America, we strongly urge you to go forward with microchipping your foals as part of the registration process. You simply need to have the chip implanted by your vet and then attach the bar code to your registration card.

◇ The Holsteiner Verband has stated that branding with the 'North American' brand will continue in 2019 and that the scoring for mares will remain the same. Every effort will be made to have branding available at all sites.

◇ Anyone wishing to present a stallion contact Bettina Mathiszyk at the Holsteiner Verband to determine eligibility and requirements. Her contact is [mathiszyk@holsteiner-verband.de](mailto:mathiszyk@holsteiner-verband.de)

## TURN OVER FOR INSPECTION FEE CALCULATIONS

(for all registration fees please look at [www.holsteiner.com](http://www.holsteiner.com))

### CUMULATIVE TOTAL SHEET FOR APPROVALS HOLSTEINER VERBAND - NORTH AMERICAN BREEDING DISTRICT

Division	# of Horses	Full Member Fees	Amount
<b>Membership fees</b> look at the <a href="http://www.holsteiner.com">www.holsteiner.com</a>			
Stallions		€680	
Potential Stallion Candidate Evaluation (2 year olds)		€140	
Mare Inspection		€160	
Re-boniting Mare		€160	
Sporthorse Gelding		€160	
Foals/Yearling		€80	
<b>Subtotal</b>			
<b>Herd Discount:</b> 5 – 10 mares/foals (10%)			
11-29 mares/foals (20%)			
30 or more mares/foals (30%)			
<b>TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED</b>			
You will get an invoice about with different payment possibilities from the Holsteiner Verband.			

All owners and participants are expected to conduct themselves in a professional and respectful manner. Judges have been hired to provide professional, quality feedback to breeders and owners regarding the results of their breeding programs. The Judges are available to discuss the scores with exhibitors as time allows at the completion of the inspection. The Judges' decisions are final. Any exhibitor that does not display proper respect and decorum will be asked by the site host to immediately leave the premises.

### GENERAL RULES

- All horses must be officially entered in order to participate in an inspection.
- All applications are bound by the current Holsteiner Verband Breeding and Registration Rules. No application will be accepted without the full fee payment.
- For non-Holsteiner horses, a copy of the registration papers must accompany the application.
- Fees are non-refundable except in case of ineligibility of the horse.
- The Holsteiner Verband office will send written or email confirmation of entries. If this notice is not received within three weeks of mailing or faxing, contact the office at (503) 570-7779 or by email at [bergmann@holsteiner-verband.de](mailto:bergmann@holsteiner-verband.de) or [holsteiner@bellsouth.net](mailto:holsteiner@bellsouth.net)

## REGISTRATION & PAPER REQUIREMENTS

- Holsteiner Verband papers, original AHHA Certificates of Registration or Certificates of Pedigree are required for all Holsteiner horses. Non-Holsteiner horses must provide original registration papers from their registry, i.e. original Jockey Club registration papers for a Thoroughbred mare.
- The bloodlines of Certificate of Pedigree horses may contain only qualified blood to be eligible for presentation. Please call the office before entering to ensure your horse is qualified.
- Foals will not be inspected or branded if registration applications, including applicable fees, are not received by the Holsteiner office prior to the date of inspection.

## BRANDING

- To be branded, the foal must be parent-verified prior to the date of the inspection site and the owner must present the identification sheet (registration card) sent from the Holsteiner Verband office. Furthermore, foals from mares that have not completed studbook entry due to delayed DNA/PV may not be eligible for branding at an inspection site until the requirements are met.
- Those Certificate of Pedigree foals or yearlings whose dams are being presented for inspection will only be eligible for branding at the site if the dam completes all requirements for entry into the studbook, including having DNA records on file with the District office.
- Branding usually takes place towards the end of the day's schedule. Owners who have signed up on their entry form to have their foal branded will be asked to bring the foal to a branding location at the site. **HELPFUL TIPS**
  - It is helpful, in order to get a good impression, to shave the foal's flank.
  - If the owner feels the foal may be unmannerly, a mild tranquilizer can be administered prior to branding.

**The authority of the brander is paramount during branding activity. A brander can refuse to apply the brand if he feels that doing so will pose a danger to himself, the handlers present, or the foal itself.**

## DNA & PARENT VERIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- All horses entering the studbooks (mares and stallions) must have a DNA profile on file as part of their permanent record before entry is considered official and final. If the mare or stallion has a DNA profile on file with another registry, the owner may provide the VGL Case Number to the District office.
- If DNA/PV is not on file with the District office at the time of approval, studbook entry will be delayed until such requirements are met. Owners who need DNA kits can order them from the District office.
- If owners are uncertain as to whether or not their mare requires DNA/PV, they may contact the District office to inquire prior to submitting an approvals entry. This will go far in saving time and avoiding confusion later.

## DEADLINES

**Registration deadline is three weeks prior to the date of the site you plan to attend.** A registration application and/or approvals entry is considered complete only when required fees and all necessary documentation, such as DNA Typing, are received by the District office. Late entries will be accepted up to 4 days prior to the site you will attend, however, no late entries are accepted without payment in full.

## WHAT TO BRING TO AN INSPECTION SITE

Along with the basic needs for your horse you will need the following items:

- The original Certificate of Registration (or Certificate of Pedigree) for any horse being presented for studbook entry. Copies are not acceptable. Foals must accompany identifications sheets (registration card) provided by the Holsteiner Verband office.
- Many site hosts require proof of negative Coggins, and some require health certificates. Contact your site host to learn the facilities' specific requirements and please abide by them.
- Some site hosts provide services for braiding, photography, and more, and also require payments for stabling and shavings. Bring methods of payment for all of these.

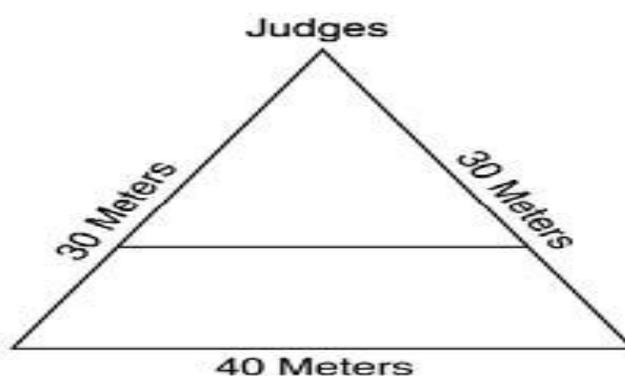
- Bring all items needed to present your horse (bridles for mares and stallions, halters and ropes for foals, grooming items, feed and hay, clothing for presentation).

## **PRESENTING YOUR HORSE**

Striving for an excellent presentation will go far towards enhancing the horse's performance and scores. Horses that won't stand, fail to exhibit all three gaits, or are generally ill-mannered, may detract from the judge's ability to score the horse effectively.

### **HANDLERS**

- Handlers should be appropriately and neatly dressed. Recommended attire is white or khaki pants, belt, and a red or white collared shirt. Running shoes are strongly recommended. Long hair should be tied back.
- Handlers should be able to run fast enough to keep the horse's neck straight and correct while at the trot. Owners who have worries able to effectively present a horse may wish to consider hiring a professional handler.
- With good turnout, and adequate preparation of the horse beforehand, the judges will have a good sense of the harmony, balance, development, alertness, impulsion and power of the horse.



### **PRESENTATION OF WEANLINGS AND YEARLINGS**

Presentation of weanlings and yearlings is optional at approvals and not required, but it is a valuable source of feedback on an owner's breeding program and for stallion owners. Weanlings and yearlings do not enter the breeding books at inspections; the evaluation is for educational and survey purposes only. To encourage a successful outcome of the evaluation, please consider the following tips:

- Foals need to be clean and groomed. They should be in good weight and condition. They should be manageable and easily caught. Braiding is optional.
- Foals do not have to be clipped.
- To prepare for inspection, spend time in the prior weeks working on leading and teaching the foal to stand quietly.
- Find a well-fitting halter that will not detract from the foal's features. Consider removing the halter once the foal is safely within the inspection arena so that it is not distracted by the halter and moves freely.
- At the inspections, the handler should wear the foal's entry number while in the ring.

In turn, foals are led to the apex of the triangle and presented for a conformation evaluation. The judges may walk

around the foal for a look from all sides. Foals are not walked or trotted in hand on the triangle during inspection, but, upon signal from the judge, the handler releases them for the gait evaluation. Keep your foal moving during the at-liberty phase, with emphasis on showing each gait to its greatest potential. On signal from the judges, catch the foal quickly and bring him again to stand before the judges until dismissed from the ring.

Foals coming at the side of mares which are also being inspected for mare book entry will be scored at the same time as their dams. It is important, then, to have two good handlers available if presenting a dam and her foal together at inspection.

Scoring: At the conclusion of the evaluation, Weanlings and Yearlings receive one score for conformation/type and a second score for quality of movement. If the foal is used to award premium status if he gets 7 or more points for conformation/type and 7 or more points for movement.



Example of Horse in 'Open' stance

*Photo: C. Kellerman*

## **PRESENTATION OF BROODMARES & SPORTHORSE GELDINGS**

**Holsteiner Mares** must be evaluated and entered into one of the Holsteiner Verband marebooks in order to produce foals that are eligible for full registration. Mares must fulfill the following requirements for inspection and stud book entry:

1. Have Holsteiner Verband or AHHA papers.
2. Be at least 3 years of age.
3. Be DNY Typed and (where possible) parent verified before studbook entry.

**Non-Holsteiner Mares** must fulfill the three qualifications for Holsteiner Mares as well as the following requirements for inspection and stud book entry:

1. Hold original Jockey Club registration papers if a Thoroughbred.
2. Hold original registration papers issued by a WBFSH-member organization.
3. Hold an AHHA Certificate of Pedigree where both the sire and the dam hold a full registration of any registry recognized by the AHHA.

4. Hold an AHHA Certificate of Pedigree and is the third generation of a Certificate of Pedigree mare which had acceptable blood but had an unapproved/unacceptable sire or dam.

**Other Mares** not meeting the above criteria must petition the District office to request eligibility for the stubooks.

**Sporhorse Geldings** must fulfill the following requirements:

1. Be registered or dual-registered with the German Holsteiner Verband or the AHHA, or hold a Certificate of Pedigree with the AHHA.
2. Be at least 2 years of age.

**Tips and Preparation** Presenting a mare or gelding in good body condition and well-groomed exhibits good management. The horse should be braided and excessive hair under the jaw should be trimmed away. Some presenters bang, or blunt cut, the tail at a height between the hock and fetlock areas. Trim long hairs from the legs and fetlocks to present clean legs. Have your farrier scheduled to trim and rasp hooves (or reset shoes) about a week before inspection. A bit of hoof polish applied on the day of inspection will complete the picture.

Mares and geldings must be presented in a bridle. Choose a bridle that accentuates the horse's head. Some presenters choose to remove the noseband to showcase their horse's features. Reins with clips for attaching to the bit are the most convenient for inspections, allowing for quick release and recapture of mares during the at-liberty phase. These clips can be found at many tack shops and are easily attached to the reins. Prepare the horse for the inspection by working with it in the weeks prior. Teach it to stand in the open position. Practice walking and trotting in hand on a triangle pattern. Find the best pace at which to showcase the horse's stride and gait quality. Lunging the horse will help add fitness and muscle to the horse's frame; start this work at least ninety days prior to the inspection for maximum benefit.

**Presentation** At each site, the first order of the day, after site registration, is the measuring of mare and sporthorse gelding candidates. Mares are brought by their owners or handlers to the measuring area. The original papers of the mare or gelding must accompany the horse to measuring. Following measuring, judges will move to the inspection arena and evaluations will commence.

Mares and sporthorse geldings are inspected in three consecutive mandatory phases followed by an optional phase of free jumping. In the first phase, the horses are led, in turn, to the apex of the triangle, before the judges, and stood in the open position for conformation analysis. Remember that the horse is being judged from the moment it steps into the ring, and a good handler will exhibit the very best walk possible as he approaches the triangle apex. At this time, the horses are judged on the quality and correctness of the head-neck connection, saddle position, shoulder, frame, front legs, hind legs, back, loin, hindquarters, joints, and the inter-relationship of these parts. Judges may walk completely around the horse.

The next phase is the in-hand gait quality analysis. At the judge's signal, handlers complete the triangle pattern first at the walk and then at a trot and return to the triangle apex. Make straight lines around the triangle. The ideal walk should exhibit four even beats with straight, even strides, freedom of the shoulder and haunches, an elastic swing through the back and loin, and a ground covering gait with a marching quality. The ideal trot should exhibit two even beats, straight even strides, with freedom of the shoulder and haunches, natural engagement and impulsion from the hindquarters, articulation of the joints, balance, elasticity, suspension, and power with an upward thrust. Stride should lengthen slightly across the back side of the triangle when moving laterally to the judges.

The third phase is the at-liberty gait quality analysis. Upon a signal from the judge, the handler is to walk the horse to the center of the ring and remove the reins from the bridle, turning the horse loose. Keep the horse moving during this phase, making the most of the short time available, and endeavor to help it exhibit both its best trot and canter gaits. Again, at the judge's signal, catch the horse and return to the apex of the triangle, presenting once again the open stance, until dismissed from the ring.

During the gait analysis, judges evaluate freedom, articulation of joints, swing, natural balance and brilliance, elasticity and cadence of the trot, and impulsion and self-carriage of the canter.

**Scoring** Each mare and sporthorse gelding receives seven subgroup bonit scores, in order, for the following during the mandatory phases of evaluation: type, topline, front legs, hind legs, walk, trot, and canter. These seven numbers are then added together to determine a mare's placement in the mare books. Geldings are not entered into the studbook.

## Studbook Placement Criteria

### Holsteiner Verband Studbook and Registration system

#### 1. The studbook for mares

Mares are usually entered into the Verband studbook at the age of three. Following long-term discussion by the Verband breeding committee, the classic studbook categories – main studbook, studbook, and preliminary studbook – had been abolished in 1998, with all mares listed in a central “studbook for mares” since. At the delegate assembly held on 24 May 2017, the delegates agreed upon the amendments to the Holsteiner Verband rules and bylaws establishing the new studbook Holstein Global.

The studbook for mares is divided into sections:

##### 1. For mares born until 1994:

###### Main section

main studbook Holstein (H)  
studbook (S)  
provisional mare book I (V1)  
studbook Holstein Global (HG)

###### special section

provisional mare book II (V 2)

##### 2. For mares born from 1995 onward:

###### Main section

studbook Holstein I for mares (ZB I)  
studbook Holstein II for mares (ZB II)  
studbook Holstein Global (ZB HG)

###### special section

provisional mare book (VB)

### I. Studbook Holstein

#### Registration into the studbook Holstein

To be eligible for registration into the main section, a mare must fulfil the appropriate pedigree requirements and hold valid registration papers upon inspection. At the inspection, the mares are presented in hand and at liberty and are given marks on type, topline, front legs, hind legs, walk, trot, and canter by the inspection and registration committee; the mare’s height is also recorded.

For further information on the studbook requirements, please compare the Verband der Züchter des Holsteiner Pferdes e.V. [rules and bylaws](#), article 35.

#### Registration of non-Holsteiner mares into the studbook Holstein

Mares that do not fulfil the pedigree requirements for entry into the Holsteiner Verband studbook Holstein may apply for entry into the studbook Holstein if they fulfil certain requirements in terms of pedigree (100%;75%;50% Holsteiner genetics, TB mares) and/or own performance (life earnings 10,000 euros at least).

For further information on the requirements, please compare the Verband der Züchter des Holsteiner Pferdes e.V. [rules and bylaws](#), article 35, section 8.

**To check if your non-Holsteiner mare may qualify for entry into the Holsteiner Verband studbook Holstein, send a copy of the registration papers and the available performance data to the Holsteiner Verband office in Kiel.**

## **II. Studbook Holstein Global**

At the delegate assembly held on 24 May 2017, the delegates agreed upon the amendments to the Holsteiner Verband articles establishing the new studbook Holstein Global.

The new studbook Holstein Global is an addition to the traditional studbook Holstein, offering non-Holsteiner mares and stallions an opportunity for registration and their offspring – in the combinations given below – to be included into the Holsteiner breeding programme.

Offspring from the following combinations are eligible for registration into the Holstein Global studbook:

- Offspring out of a Holsteiner mare (registered with ZB I) by a non-Holsteiner stallion (compare requirements under topic "registration of non-Holsteiner stallions")
- Offspring out of a non-Holsteiner mare (compare requirements under topic "registration of non-Holsteiner mares") by a Holsteiner stallion (holding Holsteiner registration papers)

### **Registration of non-Holsteiner mares**

These mares are eligible for registration with the **studbook Holstein Global** upon the following requirements:

The mare has been registered with a WBFSH affiliated studbook specified in the Holsteiner Verband rules and bylaws. She must be presented for approval at a Holsteiner Verband event either in the year of insemination to be eligible for stud fee I when bred to a Verband stallion, or the next year, when the foal has been born.

**Foals produced by these mares** are eligible for Holstein Global registration if sired by a stallion book I registered Holsteiner stallion and are given the Holsteiner brand and Holsteiner registration papers.

Female and male offspring are on equal footing with Holsteiners in the selection process.

### **Registration of non-Holsteiner stallions:**

These stallions are eligible for registration into the **stallion book Holstein Global** upon the following requirements:

The stallion has been licensed by and registered with a WBFSH affiliated studbook specified in the Holsteiner Verband rules and bylaws and has a minimum age of six years. Moreover, he must have completed stallion performance testing to a comparable standard and provide information about breed and/or sport results. Applications are handled by the breeding committee.

**Foals sired by these stallions** are eligible for Holstein Global registration, if produced by a Holstein registered dam (H, S, V I, ZB I) and given the Holsteiner brand and Holsteiner registration papers.

Female and male offspring are on equal footing with Holsteiners in the selection process.

For further information on the requirements, please compare the Verband der Züchter des Holsteiner Pferdes e.V. [rules and bylaws](#), article 35, section 8.3.

**To check if your mare or stallion qualify for entry into the Holstein Global studbook, send a copy of the registration papers to the Holsteiner Verband office in Kiel.**

## **2. Mare designations**

Upon achieving scores and certain pedigree requirements, mares may receive special designations as they may be awarded district, Verband and State Premium status.

### **District Premium status**

District premium is the first level designation given to good quality mares upon inspection in the breeding districts. To be eligible for district premium status, the mare must have a Holsteiner Verband studbook registered sire and dam (sire: H I, Holstein Global; dam: ZB I (H, S), Holstein Global).

The mare must achieve a minimum score of 47 points at inspection, with the type score not less than 7 and no other sub score 3 or less and stand at least 160cm.

These days, 60 to 70 percent of the mares registered into the studbook reach this benchmark.

### **Verband Premium status**

This designation is given to 3-year-old mares which have demonstrated outstanding quality at the breeding district inspection sites. To qualify, a mare must fulfil the same pedigree requirements as a stallion dam (Holsteiner Verband [rules and bylaws](#), article 31) as well as achieve a minimum score of 52 points at inspection, with the type score not less than 8 and no other sub score 4 or less and stand at least 160cm. These mares qualify for the Verband mare show.

Only ten percent of the mares presented for studbook registration in any given year reach this benchmark.

### **State Premium status (SP)**

Mares shown at the Verband mare show and with a minimum passing score of 7.0 in the mare performance test will be awarded the title state premium mare according to rules of the Schleswig-Holstein Ministry for Energy Turnaround, Agriculture, Environment and Rural Areas.

## **STALLIONS**

**Young Stallions** must meet the following criteria to be presented for inspection for studbook entry

1. The sire and the dam's sire must be registered stallions within their own breeding population (Stallion Book I). The other male ancestors in the maternal line (third to fifth generation) must be licensed stallions.

2. Dams of stallions born up to 1994: must be registered in the Main Mare Book, the second dam and third dam on the dam's side must at least be registered in the Verband's Mare Book. The other ancestors in the maternal line (up to the fifth generation) must likewise be mares registered with the Verband.

Dams of stallions born from 1995: must be registered in the Verband's stud book I for Mares, with an overall grade total of at least 42 points, whereby the type grade must be at least a 6 according to the grading scale (Section 26 sub-section 2) and no partial characteristic may receive a grade 4 or less according to the grading scale (Section 26 sub-section 2). They must be at least 160cm at the withers.

The second dam and third dam on the dam's side must at least be registered in the Mare Book or in stud book I for Mares having fulfilled the above requirements (of a dam of stallions born from 1995). The other ancestors in the maternal line (up to the fifth generation) must be mares registered in the Verband's stud book I.

3. Be at least three years of age.

4. Stand at least 16 hands

5. The requirements of Section 26 of these articles of association or FN (ZVO Section 200 f) must be fulfilled in the stallion performance test. No stallion may be used for breeding which has not passed at least the aptitude test according to Section 26 sub-section 4.2.1.

**Outcross stallions** (according to Section 23, sub-section 2.1.2 and 2.2) which are to be allowed to be used in the Verband's breeding programme (breeding trial) must also fulfil the following requirements.

1. Only suitable stallions whose breeding value is regarded as way above average and whose descendants are expected to have a positive influence on the Holsteiner population should be used for breeding.

2. The following principles should be considered before use in breeding:

- The stallion must have completed a HLP (at least a aptitude test according to Section 26, sub-section 4.2a.1) at the German standard (ZVO) with an above-average result.
- French bloodlines should be considered particularly strongly in the stallion's pedigree,
- The stallion owner must address an application for admission, along with the relevant documents, to the board of directors.

**Tips & Preparation** All stallion candidates should be presented in excellent body condition and at the height of fitness. They should be braided and groomed very well. Remember to address hooves (trims and resets) in the weeks leading up to the inspections. As with mares, excellence in presentation will go far in enhancing the scores a stallion receives.

Prior, at-home preparation for the testing is highly recommended. Stallions should exhibit a commanding and alert presence, but should at the same time be safely managed by the handler. The owner should devise a program for preparation best suited to the individual horse. It is recommended that any fitness program be commenced at least ninety days prior to the scheduled inspection date.

All stallions are presented in bridles with easily detachable reins (see Tips on mare presentation above). Bridles should enhance the stallion's head, not detract from it. Tack and other equipment needed for the Stallion Testing should be clean and in good repair.

**Veterinary Inspection** All stallions will undergo a mandatory veterinary inspection at the approval site prior to being officially seen by the judges. This examination will include testing for lameness and wind, drawing blood to test for prohibited substances, and a general external exam of health, conformation and breeding soundness. The veterinary inspections are to be conducted by the official site veterinarian only and will be arranged by the site host.

**Withdrawal of Stallions** If it is determined by the veterinarian that the stallion is not fit to be presented (either ill or lame), the horse may be immediately withdrawn at the discretion of the owner or agent, and all entry fees may be carried over to the following inspection year. Stallions that are presented on the triangle for judging are considered to have commenced the approval process and fees will not be carried over.

**Presentation Requirements of All Stallions** As with marebook candidates, all stallions must be presented to the judges for measurement prior to the commencement of the approval process. Owners should remember that this is their first opportunity to show the stallion to the judges and that first impressions are important. It is advised then to bring your stallion to the measuring area in a proper fitting bridle and well-groomed. Owners must also bring with them the verified copy of the stallion's papers, which are provided to them by the Holsteiner Verband representative at site check-in.

Following measuring, all stallions will be shown on hard ground before the judges. Handlers will walk and then trot the stallion both away and towards the judging panel and the official site veterinarian. At this point, the official veterinarian will offer a simple gait soundness evaluation.

In turn, stallions will commence their presentation on the triangle. Just as with mares, stallions are presented in a three-phase evaluation process on the triangle, starting with a conformation evaluation at the apex, followed by an in-hand demonstration of both the walk and trot on the triangle pattern, and a demonstration of at-liberty gaits. For more detailed presentation instructions, please refer to the section on mare presentation which appears earlier in this catalog.

Stallions will be required to participate in the free jumping evaluation. For guidelines on the chute layout, refer to the portion of this handbook titled "Content of the Performance Testing." Stallions may be asked to return again to the triangle for a second in-hand presentation. Remember that it is important to show the horse's gaits to the maximum ability during all portions of the approval. Once all the stallions have completed the testing, they will return as a group with their handlers to the arena for the announcement of results.

Afterwards, stallions will participate in a remedial riding test which exhibits the stallion's gaits under saddle and acceptance of the rider. For guidelines and content of the riding test, please refer to the portion of this handbook titled "Content of the Performance Testing." Once all stallions have completed the testing program, they will return with their handlers to the arena for the announcement of results.

**Content of the Performance Testing** The jumping chute will consist of a ground pole, a vertical, an oxer (square or ascending) and an oxer (square or ascending) in that order, placed at distances approximately 9', 22' and 24', in that order. Distances may be adjusted on an as-needed basis. Initially the jump rails will be set low. Fence heights will be raised at the discretion of the judge to best evaluate willingness, technique and scope.

Stallions from the age of 5 must jump over a course according to their level of training, which will be discussed with the licensing commission on site.

**Scoring of Stallions** The stallion licensing decision shall be "licensed" if the stallion receives an overall grade of at least 7.5 upon inspection of the following traits (a-h):

I. Conformation

- a) Type (breed and gender expression)
- b) topline (head, throat, withers, back, croup, tail)
- c) forehand (correctness of forelimbs)
- d) hindquarters (correctness of hind limbs)

## II. Movement

- e) walk (correctness, rhythm and ground coverage)
- f) trot (correctness, thrust and impulsion)
- g) canter (correctness, ground coverage)

## III. Jumping/dressage

- h) Free jumping or jumping under the rider (technique and ability), when evaluating the jumping on two-and-a-half-year-old colts, the jumping result on presentation for the health examination should be incorporated into the licensing decision, alternatively dressage for older stallions (movement and rideability) according to Section 26 sub-section 2.1.1.

The overall grade is the average of the grades from the three areas (I. conformation, II. movement and III. jumping/dressage). The grades for these areas are averages of the individual traits assigned to the area (a-h). Type (a) in Area I. Conformation must have received a grade of at least 7.0 according to the grading scale (Section 26 sub-section 2). Mature stallions (from fifteen years of age) must have an overall grade for areas I., II. and III. of at least 7.0. Type (a) in area I. conformation must have received a grade of at least 6.5 according to the grading scale (Section 26 sub-section 2).

The stallion's licensing shall be carried out on the condition that the stallion fulfils or will fulfil the performance requirements of Section 26 sub-section 4.2 of these articles of association for registration in the Verband's Stallion Book I according to Section 31 sub-section 1.